

Amendments to the Claim

Claim 1 (Currently Amended)      A method of preparing 1:1 neutral complex of essential trace elements and a dicarboxylic alpha amino acid, comprising: mixing a water soluble monobasic and amino dicarboxylic acid with a water soluble metal salt of the trace element in salt form; adjusting the pH to neutral in a manner to avoid formation of insoluble metal hydroxides; and, quickly cooling the reactants to form small crystals of the water-soluble, neutral complexes.